

Q1 --This operation is as illustrated in the flowcharts of Fig. 3 and 4. The processing executed by terminal 100 (and, similarly, by terminal 200) will be described first. It will be assumed below that the IP address corresponding to the DNS (Domain Name Service) of the WWW server 300 is 192.168.100.1 and that the file name of the data input CGI program is "input-cgi".--

Please amend the paragraph at page 22, lines 12 to 16 as shown in the attached Appendix such that it reads as follows:

Q2 --In the URL character string, a ":" or "/" within the QUERY_STRING variable is a reserved word. Therefore, an URL is created in which a conversion is made to "%3A" obtained by encoding ":" and "%2F" obtained by encoding "/". Accordingly, the transmission data is as follows:--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1 to 13 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Please add new Claims 26 to 47 as shown below and please amend Claims 14, 18 to 22 and 25 as shown in the attached Appendix. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

Q3 14. (Amended) An information providing apparatus, using a general-purpose protocol, for allotting input information, which has been entered at a plurality of

information generating terminals connected to a network, to a client connected to the network, comprising:

terminal status storage means for receiving data sent from the plurality of information generating terminals at predetermined time intervals, and storing the data in a storage unit provided for each information generating terminal;

first transmitting means for transmitting viewing information concerning the information generating terminals to the client in order to make it possible for the client to select an information generating terminal for which data has been stored; and

second transmitting means for transmitting, to the client, terminal identifying communication information identifying an information generating terminal selected by the client so that the client can directly communicate with the information generating terminal so as to receive input information of the information generating terminal.

15. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein the network is the Internet and said information providing apparatus is a World-Wide Web server.

16. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein a protocol between the information generating terminals and the information providing apparatus, as well as a protocol between said information providing apparatus and the client, is the HyperText Transfer Protocol.

17. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein each of said information generating terminals has a Global Positioning System and image sensing means.

18. (Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein said terminal status storage means stores and updates position information, which is sent from each of the information generating terminals, in accordance with an URL of said information providing apparatus and a directory name and file name specific to each individual information generating terminal.

19. (Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein said first transmitting means transfers data, by HyperText Markup Language, composed of combined image information and URL information, said combined image information consisting of a map image in a vicinity of a position requested by the client and an icon image indicating a position at which an information generating terminal contained in the map image is present, and the URL information is linked to the icon image and allows transmission by said second transmitting means.

20. (Amended) A method of controlling an information providing apparatus using a general-purpose protocol for allotting input information, which has been entered at a plurality of information generating terminals connected to a network, to a client connected to the network, comprising the steps of:

a terminal status storage step of receiving data sent from the plurality of information generating terminals at predetermined time arrivals, and storing the data in a storage unit provided for each information generating terminal;

a first transmitting step of transmitting viewing information concerning the information generating terminals to the client in order to make it possible for the client to select an information generating terminal for which data has been stored; and

a second transmitting step of transmitting, to the client, terminal identifying communication information identifying an information generating terminal selected by the client so that the client can directly communicate with the information generating terminal so as to receive input information of the information generating terminal.

21. (Amended) A computer readable storage medium storing program code functioning as an information providing apparatus using a general-purpose protocol for allotting input information, which has been entered at a plurality of information generating terminals connected to a network, to a client connected to the network, comprising:

program code of a terminal status storage step of receiving data sent from the plurality of information generating terminals at predetermined time intervals, and storing the data in a storage unit provided for each information generating terminal;

program code of a first transmitting step of transmitting viewing information concerning the information generating terminals to a client in order to make it possible for the client to select an information generating terminal for which data has been stored; and

program code of a second transmitting step of transmitting, to the client, terminal identifying communication information identifying an information generating terminal selected by the client so that the client can directly communicate with the information generating terminal so as to receive input information of the information generating terminal.

22. (Amended) An information providing system in which a plurality of information generating terminals, an information display terminal and a server are connected via a general-purpose network, wherein each information generating terminal comprises:

first input means for inputting video data representing video sensed by a prescribed image sensing means;

second input means for inputting position information from a Global Positioning System; and

first transmitting means for transmitting information, which has been input by said first and second input means, in order to store the information in said server in accordance with an URL allocated to said information generating terminal;

said information display terminal comprises:

first requesting means for requesting said server to transmit viewing information relating to said information generating terminals;

selecting means for selecting a desired information generating terminal from the viewing information that has been sent from said server; and

display means for displaying at least the video data, which has been input by said first input means, contained in information that has been generated by the information generating terminal selected by said selecting means; and

said server comprises:

storage means for storing information, which is transmitted from said information generating terminal, at a location corresponding to the URL;

second transmitting means which, in a case where said first requesting means of said information display terminal has issued a request, transmits the viewing information relating to the information generating terminal stored by said storage means to the information display terminal that issued the request; and

third transmitting means for transmitting, to said information display terminal, terminal identifying communication information identifying the information generating terminal, which has been selected by said selecting means of said information display terminal, so that the information display terminal can directly communicate with the information generating terminal so as to receive input information of the information generating terminal.

23. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The system according to Claim 22, wherein said network is the Internet.

24. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The system according to Claim 22, wherein a protocol between said information generating terminals and said server, as well

as a protocol between said server and said information display terminal, is the HyperText Transfer Protocol.

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25. (Amended) The system according to Claim 22, wherein said second transmitting means of said server transfers data, by HyperText Markup Language, composed of combined image information and URL information, said combined image information consisting of a map image in a vicinity of a position requested by the information display terminal and an icon image indicating a position at which an information generating terminal contained in the map image is present, and the URL information is linked to the icon image and allows transmission by said third transmitting means.

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26. (New) A status information providing system for sensing a status of an object terminal via a network and outputting information indicative of the sensed status to a prescribed output terminal, wherein

said object terminal comprises:

sensing means for sensing position information of the object terminal itself; and

transmitting means for transferring the position information by HTTP protocol to a predetermined server on the network according to a URL which includes characters identifying the object terminal, so as to store the position information in storage means provided in said server; and

said output terminal comprises:

readout means for reading information out of said storage means of
said server; and

output means for producing an output in accordance with the
information read out by readout means.

27. (New) The system according to Claim 26, wherein said sensing means
includes means for sensing direction of said object terminal.

28. (New) The system according to Claim 26, wherein the network is the
Internet.

29. (New) The system according to Claim 26, wherein said transmitting
means transmits the position information at a prescribed time interval determined by an
external setting.

30. (New) A status information providing apparatus for outputting
information to a server connected to a network, comprising:

sensing means for sensing position information of the apparatus itself; and

transmitting means for transferring the position information by HTTP
protocol to the server on the network according to a URL which includes characters

identifying the status information providing apparatus, so as to store the position information in storage means provided in said server.

31. (New) The apparatus according to Claim 30, wherein said sensing means includes means for sensing direction of the status information providing apparatus.

32. (New) The system according to Claim 31, wherein the network is the Internet.

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33. (New) A client terminal which is provided in a moveable object and connectable to a server which receives and stores position information indicative of a position of an object terminal as a URL of HTTP protocol, said client terminal comprising:

requiring means for requiring, by using said URL, the position information of the object terminal stored in said server;

receiving means for receiving the position information of the object terminal sent from said server by said requiring means; and

display means for displaying a symbol mark on a map displayed on a screen on a basis of the position information received by said receiving means.

34. (New) A method of controlling a status information providing system for sensing a status of an object terminal via a network and outputting information indicative of the sensed status to a predetermined output terminal, wherein

said object terminal performs the steps of:

a sensing step of sensing position information of the object terminal itself;

and

a transmitting step of transferring the position information by HTTP

protocol to a predetermined server on the network according to a URL which includes characters identifying the object terminal, so as to store the position information in storage means provided in said server; and

said output terminal performs the steps of:

a readout step of reading information out of said storage means of said

server; and

an output step of producing an output in accordance with the information

read out in said readout step.

35. (New) A method of controlling a status information providing apparatus for outputting information to a server connected to a network, comprising the steps of:

a sensing step of sensing position information of the apparatus itself; and

a transmitting step of transferring the position information by HTTP

protocol to the server on the network according to a URL which includes characters identifying the status information providing apparatus, so as to store the position information in storage means provided in said server.

36. (New) A method of controlling a client terminal which is provided in a moveable object and connectable to a server which receives position information indicative of a position of an object terminal as a URL of HTTP protocol, said client terminal performing the steps of:

a requiring step of requiring, by using said URL, the position information of the object terminal stored in said server;

a receiving step of receiving the position information of the object terminal sent from said server by said requiring step; and

a display step of displaying a symbol mark on a map displayed on a screen on a basis of the position information received by said receiving means.

37. (New) A computer readable storage medium storing program code functioning as an information providing apparatus for outputting information to a server connected to a network, said program code comprising the steps of:

sensing a position of the apparatus itself as position information; and

transmitting the position information by HTTP protocol to the server on the network according to a URL which includes characters identifying the status information providing apparatus so as to store the position information in storage means provided in said server.

38. (New) A computer readable storage medium storing program code functioning as a client terminal connectable to a server which receives position information

indicative of a position of an object terminal as a URL of HTTP protocol, said program code performing the steps of:

requiring the position information of the object terminal from said server by using said URL;

receiving means for receiving the position information of the object terminal sent from said server by said requiring means; and

display means for displaying a symbol mark on a map displayed on a screen on the basis of the position information received by said receiving means.

39. (New) A system which outputs information of an information

generating terminal to a predetermined output terminal via a network, wherein

said information generating terminal comprises:

sensing means for sensing status information of the information generating terminal itself;

generating means for generating information to be transferred; and

first transmitting means for transferring information sensed by said sensing means to a predetermined server on the network so as to store the information in storage means of the server;

said server comprises:

second transmitting means for transmitting, to the output terminal, the status information of the information generating terminal stored in said storage means and terminal identifying communication information identifying the information generating

terminal so that the output terminal can directly designate the information generating terminal; and

said output terminal comprising;

communication means for receiving the status information and the terminal identifying communication information transferred from said sever, for referring to the received status information, and for receiving information from said information generating terminal directly by accessing said information generating terminal using the terminal identifying communication information; and

output means for outputting information from said information generating terminal.

40. (New) The system according to Claim 39, wherein said terminal identifying communication information is address information of said information generating terminal on the network.

41. (New) A communication apparatus for outputting information of an information generating terminal to an output terminal via a network, comprising:

receiving means for receiving status information of said information generating terminal; and

transmission means for transferring, to said output terminal, the status information received by said receiving means and terminal identifying communication

information which is used for communication with said information generating apparatus directly,

wherein said output terminal refers to the status information and receives information from said information generating terminal directly by communicating with the information generating terminal using the terminal identifying communication information.

42. (New) A method for a system which outputs information of an information generating terminal to a predetermined output terminal via a network, wherein said information generating terminal performs the steps of:

sensing status information of the information generating terminal itself;

generating information to be transferred; and

transferring information sensed in the sensing step to a predetermined server on the network so as to store the information in storage means of the server;

said server performs the steps of:

transmitting, to the output terminal, the status information of the information generating terminal stored in said storage means and terminal identifying communication information identifying the information generating terminal so that the output terminal can directly designate the information generating terminal; and

said output terminal performs the steps of;

receiving the status information and the terminal identifying communication information transferred from said sever, for referring to the received status information, and for receiving information from said information generating terminal directly by accessing said information generating terminal using the terminal identifying communication information; and

outputting information from said information generating terminal.

43. (New) The method according to Claim 39, wherein said terminal identifying communication information is address information of said information generating terminal on the network.

44. (New) A method for a communication apparatus for outputting information of an information generating terminal to an output terminal via a network, comprising the steps of:

receiving status information of said information generating terminal; and

transferring, to said output terminal, the status information received by said receiving step and terminal identifying communication information which is used for communication with said information generating apparatus directly,

wherein said output terminal refers to the status information and receives information from said information generating terminal directly by communicating with the information generating terminal using the terminal identifying communication information.

45. (New) A computer readable medium which stores program code for a system which outputs information of an information generating terminal to a predetermined output terminal via a network, wherein

said information generating terminal performs the steps of:

sensing status information of the information generating terminal
itself;

generating information to be transferred; and

transferring information sensed by said sensing step to a
predetermined server on the network so as to store the information in storage means of the
server;

said server performs the steps of:

transmitting, to the output terminal, the status information of the
information generating terminal stored in said storage means and terminal identifying
communication information identifying the information generating terminal so that the
output terminal can directly designate the information generating terminal; and

said output terminal performs the steps of;

receiving the status information and the terminal identifying
communication information transferred from said sever, for referring to the received status
information, and for receiving information from said information generating terminal
directly by accessing said information generating terminal using the terminal identifying
communication information; and

outputting information from said information generating terminal.

46. (New) The computer readable medium according to Claim 39,
wherein said terminal identifying communication information is address information of
said information generating terminal on the network.

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47. (New) A computer readable medium which stores program code for a
communication apparatus for outputting information of an information generating terminal
to an output terminal via a network, the program code comprising the steps of:

receiving status information of said information generating terminal; and

transferring, to said output terminal, the status information received by said
receiving step and terminal identifying communication information which is used for
communication with said information generating apparatus directly,

wherein said output terminal refers to the status information and receives
information from said information generating terminal directly by communicating with the
information generating terminal using the terminal identifying communication information.

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action
dated June 20, 2002. Claims 14 to 47 are now pending in the application with Claims, 1 to
13 having been cancelled, Claims 26 to 47 have been newly-added, and Claims 14, 18 to
22 and 25 having been amended. Claims 14, 20 to 22, 26, 30, 33 to 39, 41, 42, 44, 45 and
47 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully
requested.